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Issue No. 4

# FOCUS

## NEWS & VIEWS

This is the final summer issue of Focus. We hope it has been able to keep the L.S.A. membership on top of what has been happening this summer and will continue to do so throughout the school year. The next issue of Focus should be coming out in mid-September, therefore those wishing to have something printed in the next publication should consider that we will be operating on a deadline. The plan is to publish bi-monthly, thus, if September 15th is set as a date of publication, submissions should be in by September 12 or 13. We hope that everyone in the L.S.A. will use Focus as a means of communication, thereby, keeping news, views, plans and ideas flowing between us all.

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### The Residence Situation: Rebate for Residence Students Being Considered

In April of this year, the new residence fees were announced to a tune of a 46% increase for single occupancy rooms and a 52% one on double occupancy rooms.

The L.S.A. immediately launched a campaign of sorts against the increase by passing a motion through its Board of Directors, and sending letters to and meeting with the Rector, the Treasurer, the head of Ancillary Services and the Director of Residence. Negotiations being made through the L.S.A. Co-President Susan Saucedo were stalemated in June with the sudden death of the then Director of Ancillary Services, Mr. A. Woodcock, and the expiry of Ron Cadieux's (the Director of Residence) term of office.

The next step taken by the L.S.A. was to meet with the Rector, who referred

the situation to the Treasurer, Graham Martin. Saucedo also met with Cadieux's replacement, Dave Chandler. The prevalent attitude offered by Martin and Chandler was "wait and see". Because both men were new to the operation and were not in fact responsible for drawing up the new budget they were hesitant to make any changes.

Eventually, however, changes were made to the budget by the new Director of Ancillary Services, Doug Devenne. Those revisions could leave the Residences with a total surplus of approximately \$32,700.00. If this surplus materialises it has been recommended by Devenne and Chandler that it should be rebated to the students in December and in April. The plan is then if the surplus is realised each student will receive a \$100.00 rebate.

Still the rebate plan is only in the consideration stage. All the resident students actually have from those in charge is a promise that they will be listened to. Eventually this boils down to three positions: (1) the Director of Residence, Dave Chandler, does not want to make any decisions without consulting the residence students first, (2) the Treasurer, Graham Martin, would like to hear students' opinions about the services offered (ie. maintenance) and would like to know of any creative suggestions on how to cut down costs, and (3) finally the Director of Ancillary Services, Doug Devenne, feels the fee is out of line and says that the rebate is seriously being considered. He wants the students to speak out on the fee increase but also warns them not to expect miracles.

Thus, it seems that is anything is to be done about the residence fee increase it is up to the students to speak out and make their views known. One method by which residence students can do this is to form an association of their own. Such an association would be endorsed and supported by the L.S.A. Anyone interested in forming such an association should contact the L.S.A. at 482-9280.

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#### C.U.S.A. Constitution to be unveiled soon

Organisers of the proposed Concordia -wide student association (CUSA) will present an operational constitution to the five student associations in the very near future. According to the CUSA proposal (see Focus Issue No. 1) the Association is to be a confederated structure. The constitution as it now exists makes CUSA a provisional organisation to operate for one year. It is then

planned to draw up a new constitution in January of 1978.

The suggested budget of CUSA is \$2,000.00 with the LSA being expected to pick up about 26.6% of the tab.

It seems, however, that only three of the five associations are favourable to CUSA's proposed structure. The LSA, the DSA and the LESA have more or less accepted the CUSA proposal, while Bob Evans, Chairman of the Advisory Committee will not join CUSA. His reasoning is lack of time and the desire to revive his own association. On the other hand, the GSA has shown no interest at all, attending only one of the CUSA Formation Committee meetings.

The LSA stance on CUSA, as presented by CUSA Formation Committee member and LSA Co-President, Jean Robertson, is that CUSA should pave the way for a strong university-wide association, establish general guidelines for education policy and set up guidelines in the area of student services. Although in agreement with the confederated structure idea for this year, the LSA would like to see in the future one central unified student organisation at Concordia.

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#### A.N.E.Q. Plans visit to Members in September

All is not quiet on the External front. Lately, there has been a rash of Central Council meetings of ANEQ. All or most of all these meetings are in preparation of the province-wide visit to member institutions by the executives and members of the Central Council of ANEQ. Alain Lajoie, External V.P. and member of the Central Council will be joining this roving group from ANEQ for two weeks at the end of September when it will hit the Montreal region.

The 8th Congress of ANEQ should be taking place in Three Rivers at the end of October. There will also be an ANEQ magazine coming out early September. More news from ANEQ will be forthcoming in future issues of Focus. If you would like to get involved with ANEQ or the External situation in general, drop by and see Alain Lajoie, External Department Vice-President in the L.S.A. building Room 308.

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#### Bits and Pieces

"COP 77" plans are moving right along. Molson Breweries have been given the beer selling contract for this year's Campus Orientation Program and "Sweet Blindness, a group from Toronto, has been signed to play at the bash at the rink, Friday September 16th...

A Debating Competition between the Cultural Associations is being planned for this year by the Internal Department. Patrick Brown, Internal V.P. for Cultural Associations has been promised \$100.00 and a trophy by the Executive Assistant to the Rector, Michael Sheldon, for this project..... An L.S.A. Day at Lacolle is being planned for September 22nd. Everyone is invited, so if you want to come along, please do. The idea behind the day is to get to know each other and talk about future plans for a possible L.S.A. weekend..... The Phone Guard System described in the last issue of FOCUS will probably be installed in September at a cost of approximatly \$900.00..... A Reminder to everyone to bring in those books you don't want anymore to the L.S.A. Book Co-Op. You can help other students save money, while making some yourself. It should be noted that prices of books in the Concordia Book Store are expected to go up 10 - 30% this year. So why not drop by with some books to the third floor of the L.S.A. building. You can save 25% - 50% and more off last years book prices by bringing books to the Book Co-op..... The University Accounting System at Concordia, in case you didn't know, requires that a deficit in a department one year be carried over into the next year. This could mean an immediate deficit for a department in a given year, before that year has even begun.... Saga Foods, the same company that operates at Sir George Williams campus, will be working at Hingston Hall cafeteria this year. Saga has also recievied the contract for the vending machines. However, Beaver will still be handling the food at the Campus Center..... Meeting of Departmental Executives. All Departmental Executives are invited to an informal meeting at the L.S.A. Conference Room No. 402 on September 9th to discuss plans for the upcoming year..... The Latest Results of the Student Services ballot are: of 315 responses recieved 135 were in favour of withholding all the fee (42.9%), 116 favored withholding only the \$3.50 increase (36.8%), and 64 thought the whole fee should be paid (20.3%).....

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### Current Subscriptions

The L.S.A. is the recipient of a number of different publications. A list of current publications will now be featured in Focus as they are ordered and become available. If you see something there you might like to read drop by the office where that publication might be kept.

The latest publications received by the L.S.A. are:

1. Universities and Colleges of Canada 1976  
By Statistics Canada and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, 581 pages.  
To be found in: the Co-Presidents and External Offices
2. Canadian Government Publications  
By Supply and Services Canada, Printing and Publishing Division, monthly.  
To be found in: the Co-Presidents' Office

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